

B-3399 - B-3404
241-203 Grindall St. (South side)
Baltimore, Md.
Private access

1852-1884

231-241 Grindall St. is a row of two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, typical of the type of small Victorian-style house built for working class residents in this section of Federal Hill in the 1880's and 1890's. The houses were built by Nicholas Popplein on the rear portions of his lots facing on Cross St., in the early 1880's. 221 Grindall St. is a two story, three bay wide Victorian style brick house, with shed roof and bracketed cornice, built in this same period. The houses on the western end of the block, 203-219 Grindall St., are all two story, two bay wide, gable-roofed brick houses built on high basements in which the kitchen was located. The houses were built by John T. Grindall in 1852-1854.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

239-241 Grindall St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This pair of two story, two bay brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal cornices was built in the 1870's as part of the development of the eastern end of Grindall St. Both houses have been covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, 239 Grindall is 14' wide, 241 Grindall is 15' wide, and both occupy lots 44 1/2' deep. Each house is two rooms deep and has a two story high, two bay deep frame rear addition. The houses are constructed in running bond but both facades have been covered with formstone. Each house has a single chimney located along the front section of the roof. At 239 Grindall the chimney is located on the west side of the house; at 241 it is on the east side of the house. The shed roof of 241 Grindall is capped by a stamped sheet metal cornice consisting of a deeply projecting crown molding set above a row of dentils and a molding strip. Three ratcheted brackets at one time connected the cornice to a lower molding strip which is now missing. The upper edges of the two end brackets terminate in pointed "anthemion" motifs.

Although the original treatment of the door and window lintels and sills has been hidden by the formstone covering, it is apparent that all of the openings had segmentally arched brick lintels with scroll-sawed tympanums. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. Both houses have modern six panel doors set beneath single light transoms. The houses sit on high basements, the entrances being reached by five stone steps each. Each house has a rectangular basement window opening located beneath the first floor window and each originally had a door leading to the basement kitchen located directly beneath the front door, under the original wooden steps.

The houses are two rooms deep with a front and back room separated by a tightly winding staircase located against the outside wall. The front room of each house originally came equipped with a Latrobe stove, which is still in place at 239 Grindall. The kitchens were located in the basement towards the front of the house, with a storage area to the rear. Each kitchen had a working fireplace.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-3399

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1876-1884

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Nicholas Popplein

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These houses are representative of a large group of modest, two story, Victorian houses built in the 1870's and 1880's to accommodate the rapidly growing number of workers (many of whom were recent immigrants) employed in the nearby shipyards, packing plants, and factories located along the waterfront east of Covington St. These houses are notable for their small scale, yet solid construction and practical amenities, such as already installed Franklin stoves. The houses are built on shallow lots, the aim being to fit as many houses as possible within a given space. The houses are two rooms deep with the kitchen (formerly) located in the basement, with an entrance off the sidewalk under the front door. A notable feature of these houses is that, despite the simple nature of the form and design, the builder still indulged in an often elaborate exterior cornice treatment, a decorative addition which could easily be manufactured by machine.

These houses were built by Nicholas Popplein as part of his development of the eastern section of the block bounded by William St., Cross St., Riverside Ave., and Grindall St. They were built on the rear portion of the lots fronting on 234-236 E. Cross St. and were long a part of that property, providing additional rental income for the owner of the Cross St. houses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14' x 44'6" (239); 14' x 44'6" (241)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

5/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

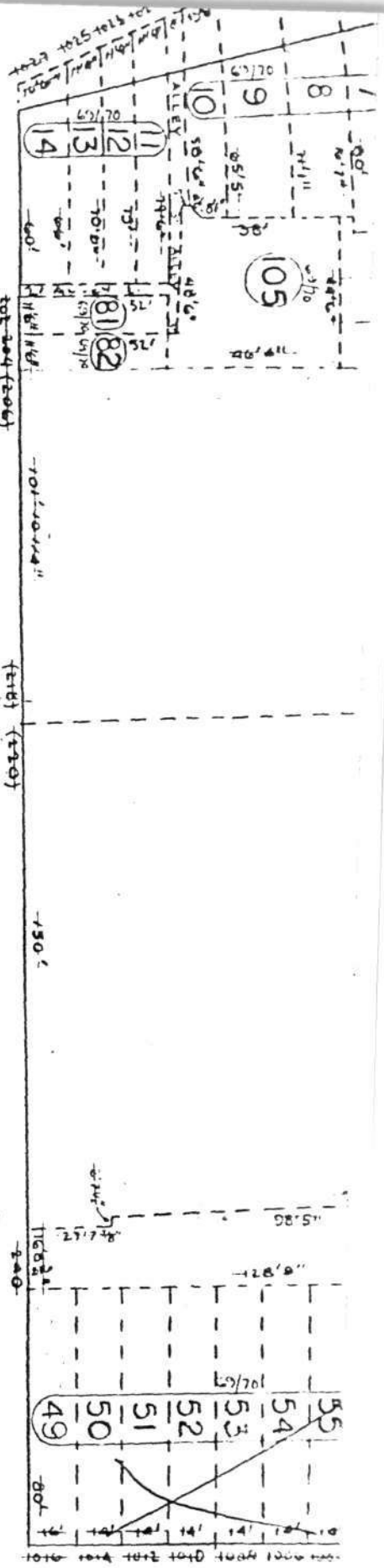
Ruxton

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



WILLIAM

GRINDALI

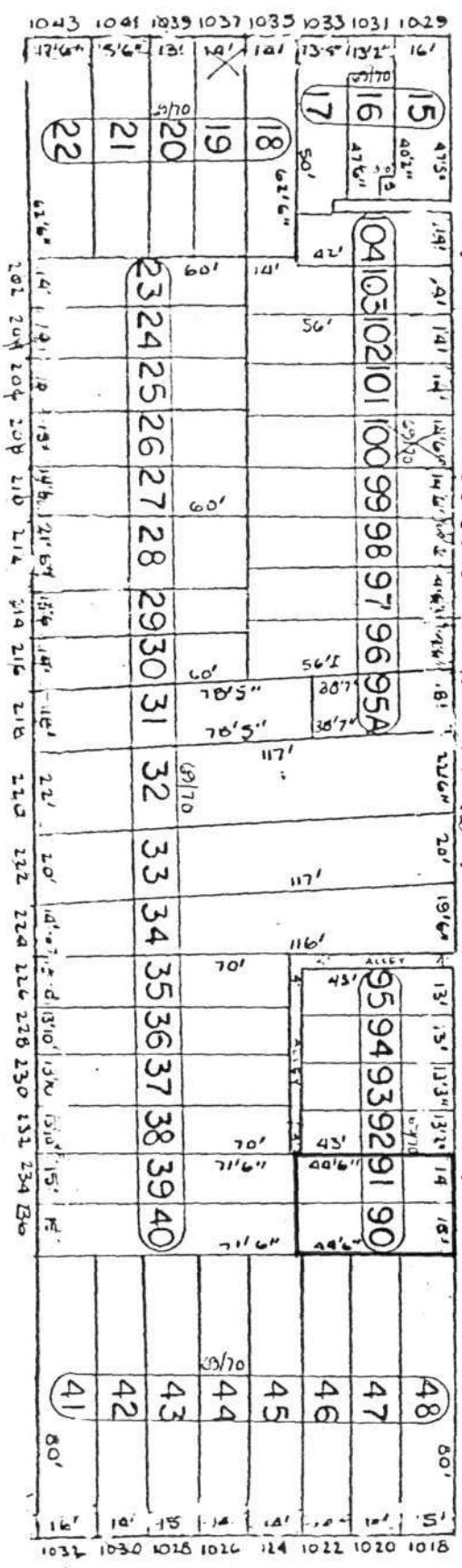
E. CROSS

B-3344

ST

ST.

RIVERSIDE



952

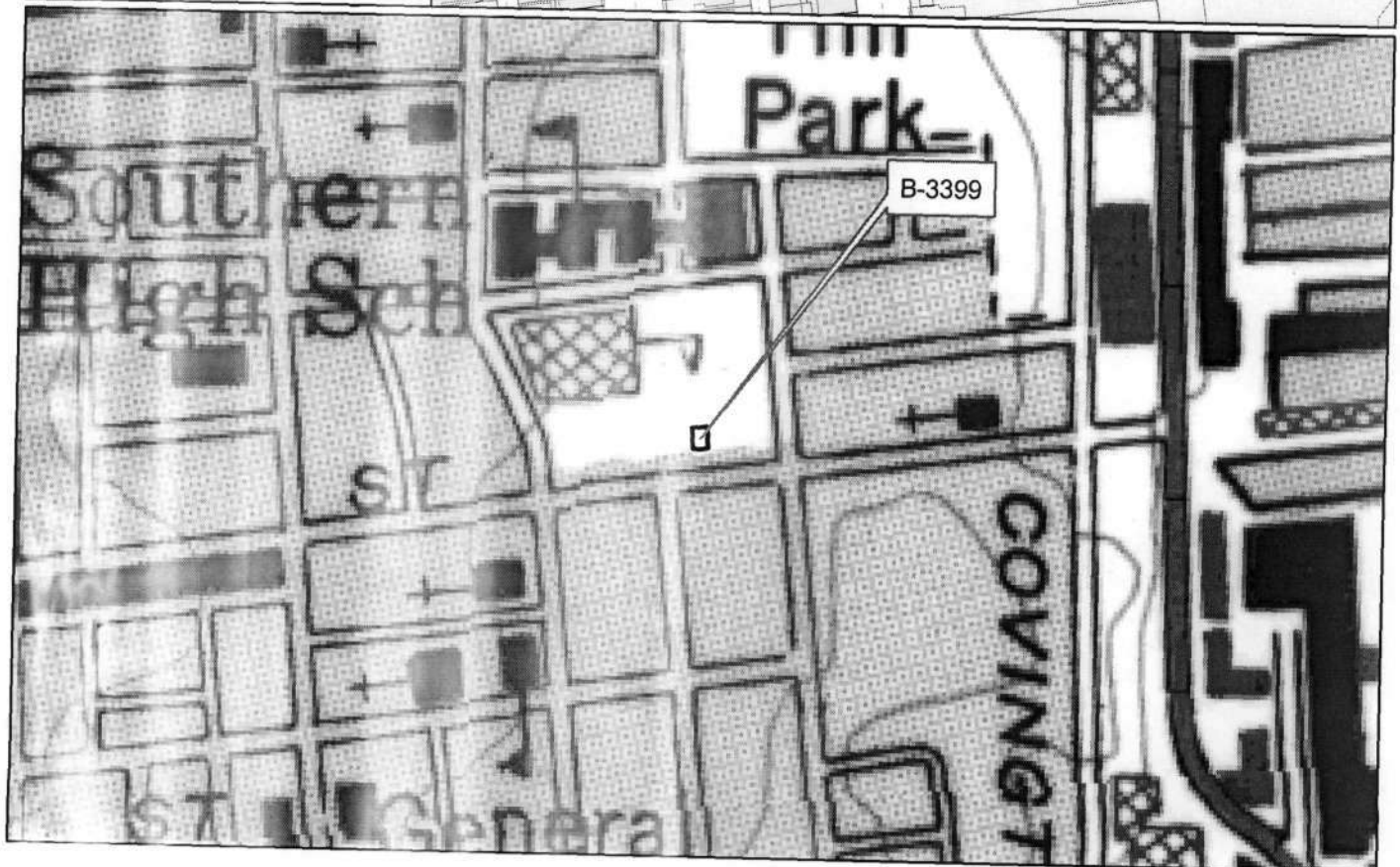
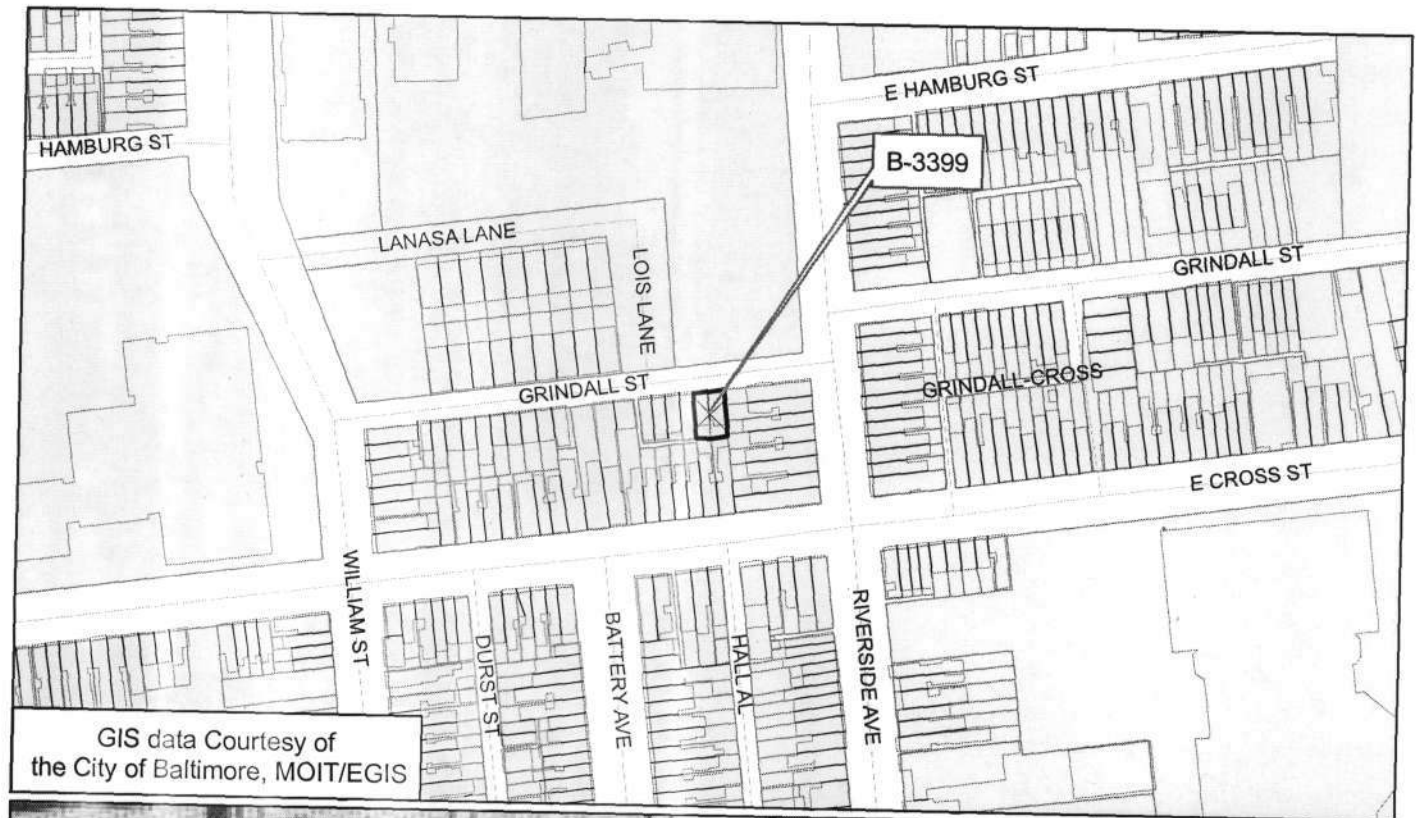
1918

SHEET 3 IN SET-3

24-1-937 FOR 69/70

CITY OF

B-3399
239-241 Grindall Street
Block 0937 Lots 063-064
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3399 239-241 Grindall St.

M.E.H. 5/79

North elevation